BILL NO. A-79-08-58 (as amended)

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APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. A- 19-79

AN ORDINANCE appropriating additional funds in the General Fund to specific account of the Department of City Controller

WHEREAS, an EMERGENCY exists for the appropriation of additional funds to the current budget of the City Controller, which appropriation has been recommended by the City Controller, in the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000) dollars, which funds are presently available in the unobligated balance of the General Fund by reason of a recent transfer to it of such amount from the Cash Reserve Fund of the Electric Utility as envisioned by I.C. 19-3-19-1;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. That there is hereby appropriated to the accounts of the current budget of the City Controller the amount set opposite said account below respectively, to wit:

Account No. 4-02-010-002-4267 Consultant Services \$75,000.00

SECTION 2. That the unappropriated balance of the General Fund is hereby reduced in the amount of \$75,000.

SECTION 3. The first expenditures shall be to fund a study to determine the legality of the petition, and to pay for costs related to such a legal study. Further, no other funds shall be spent until the legal question is decided in the affirmative.

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor and legal publication thereof.

ivian G. Schmidt

Councilwoman

BILL NO. A-79-08-58 auceu Lud APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO.

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SECTION 1. That there is hereby appropriated to the accounts of the current budget of the City Controller the amount set opposite said account below respectively, to wit;

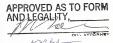
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SECTION 2. That the unappropriated balance of the General Fund is hereby reduced in the amount of \$75,000.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor and legal publication thereof.

Visian & Sumider

****Public Hearing set	for(Day)	 1979
at(Time)	_ o'clock.	



Read the f	irst time in full and	on motion by	1 Description	much, sec	onded by
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Committee on	Jenes	ice	(and the Ci	ty Plan Commi	ssion for
recommendation)	and Public Hearing	g to be held a	fter due legal not	ice, at the Co	uncil Chambers,
City-County Buil	ding, Fort Wayne,	Indiana, on 😋	Tues.	the	day
of Spi	tenber, 19	27 _{at} 7:3	o'clock P	_M.,E.S.T.	
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Bill No. A-79-08-58	65 amende	ed !	
	REPORT OF THE COL	MITTEE ON FINANCE	
We, your Committee on	Finance	to whom was referre	ed an Ordinance
appropriatin	g additional funds	in the General Fund	to specific
account of t	he Department of Ci	ty Controller	
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WILLIAM T. HINGA -	- VICE CHAIRMAN		V
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	₹ _D	CHARLES W. WE	in Sterman, City Clerk

STATEMENT OF INDIANA & MICHIGAN ELECTRIC COMPANY TO Finance Committee Of The Common Council Of The City Of Fort Wayne, Indiana On Appropriation Bill No. A-79-08-58 September 11, 1979

Introduction

So that we may present to you, in a permanent and more detailed form, the issues raised with you by our representatives this evening, we are reducing them to writing.

As most of you are aware, Indiana & Michigan Electric Company ("I&M") owns a "presently operating electric utility" in the City of Fort Wayne, in the six (6) mile perimeter of the City of Fort Wayne and in many other cities, towns and rural areas in the states of Indiana and Michigan. They all could meet the definition of being "presently operating electric utilities". In fact, I&M, as a corporate entity, could meet the definition of being a "presently operating electric utility".

I&M also owns and operates transmission lines through the City of Fort Wayne and the perimeter thereof. They serve other areas but are part of the electric utility presently operating in the City of Fort Wayne.

I&M does not own, but it has the right to operate, what was known as "City Light" under the terms of a lease with the City of Fort Wayne. That, also could be considered to be a "presently operating electric utility".

The Whitley County, United and Paulding-Putnam REMCs also own "presently operating electric utilities" in the six (6) mile area surrounding Fort Wayne. The Cities of New Haven and Huntertown are located in that same area and have "presently operating electric utilities" within them.

Appropriation

Before appropriating \$75,000.00 to study some question we suggest that there should be a more clear understanding of which "presently operating electric utility" will be studied, why the money is being appropriated, what is to be studied and by whom. It would, indeed, be a shame to appropriate and spend \$75,000.00 to study a question that nobody may ever decide, for any one of many reasons.

The Appropriation Bill which you have under consideration merely appropriates the money to the "consultant services" account. It does not define the purpose for which the money is to be used. That could cover any consultant on any question or questions studied in any sequence. Would it be a better Bill if it were amended to answer at lease the following three (3) questions:

- 1. What questions should the consultants study? and
- 2. In what sequence should the questions be studied?
- 3. Who will select the consultants to make the studies?

Questions Studied

Before determining what questions should be considered by which consultant, the Council should decide whether or not it desires a study that will be pertinent to whatever the petition seeks to have done. It will be most difficult to instruct a consultant to study the question raised by the petition because that petition does not raise a clear question. There is no way to tell from the petition itself which "presently operating electric utility" it refers to. As recently as August 17, 1979, a spokesman for the group pushing this proposal was quoted in the Fort Wayne News Sentinel as saying:

"It is impossible to define the boundaries [of the system]. We don't know if we'll go the six mile fringe or not".

Does this statement tell you which utility system is to be studied?

If the Council decides to have a particular question studied without regard to the Petition, it must answer for itself "why?" What do we expect to accomplish by the study after the money has been spent?

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Sequence in Which Questions Studied

The members of this Council may be of the opinion that their discussion and the resolution which they adopted on August 14, 1979, established a sequence in which the study is to consider the various questions raised. However, if you closely study the part of that document which reflects your resolution, you will find that it provides as follows:

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne take whatever steps his department deems necessary to consider appropriation of funds to finance costs of studies on the proposal by AMP for City of Fort Wayne, Indiana to purchase, condemn +/or acquire the presently operating electric utility."

The first recital paragraph of that document credits the group with having requested a study in a particular sequence. However, that language was never carried into the resolution part of that document. Consequently, it is of no legal effect.

If your intention is to be given effect, the Appropriation Bill that you are now considering should provide for the study to include, in sequence, a legal part, an engineering part and a financial part. There would seem to be little point in spending money to make an engineering or financial study until after you determine that the City, legally, can do whatever it is the Petition asks it to do.

Consultants

At the outset, we suggest that it may be desirable to employ different consultants for each area of the study. Excellent lawyers make notoriously poor engineers but are the only ones qualified to answer legal questions. Both the process of selection and the consultants themselves should be beyond reproach. According to this morning's newspaper, Mr. Moses appears to have already set those wheels in motion.

Legal Study

The Council's own attorney, John Logan, has already expressed the opinion that the petition is not legally sufficient to be treated as a "petition", as that term is used in \$8-1-2-99 of the Indiana Code. However, by tie vote, with one

September 11, 1979 Page Four

Councilman absent, this Council declined to concur in the opinion of Mr. Logan. Mr. Logan's opinion has been buttressed by the opinion of William Evans of the Indianapolis law firm of Bose and Evans. For years the City has utilized the services of a particular bond counsel firm. They are recognized experts in municipal financing. Since, ultimately, bond counsel would have to pass on the legality of the bonds which will have to be issued to finance any condemnation, it might be well to seek the opinion of that bond counsel, at this time, instead of waiting until after \$75,000.00 or more has been spent. Among the questions that might be put to bond counsel are the following:

- 1. Is the petition that motivated this appropriation bill legally sufficient to be treated as a "petition" in accordance with §8-1-2-99 of the Indiana Code?
- 2. How much money will \$8-1-2-94 of the Indiana Code permit the City to spend on a preliminary study before defining the system to be acquired?

It should be noted that \$8-1-2-94 of the Ind. Code places a legal limitation on the amount that may be spent for a preliminary study. The limitation is 5% of the estimated cost of acquiring the system to be acquired. However, until you decide exactly what system is to be acquired, you cannot estimate how much 5% of the value of that system would be.

3. What effect could the methods used to obtain signatures on the petition have upon the validity of those signatures?

You will recall that a picture recently appeared in the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette of people signing the AMP Petition under a sign which said "Sign here for lower rates". Many of you may have seen that same sign or one like it. Were people induced to sign the petition upon the representation that if enough people did so, their electric rates would automatically be decreased? However, aren't you now being asked to finance a study to determine whether or not that claim can be substantiated? In time sequence, shouldn't the study have been made before the representations were made? If the study reflects that the granting of the petition will not reduce rates, weren't the people mislead? Does that affect the validity of their signatures on the petition?

4. Can the lease between the City of Fort Wayne and I&M relative to what formerly was known as "City Light" be broken unilaterally by the City without any evidence of I&M's failure to perform? September 11, 1979 Page Five

The lease contains several covenants which could be interpreted as a waiver of the right of the City to condemn what it already owns. Among those are:

"The City covenants and agrees with the Company [IRM] that it will not sell, encumber or otherwise impair or affect Company's possession, operation of, or interest in, the leased property durthe term of this agreement, (Article IX)".

That covenant made by the City must mean something. Mr. Evans has already expressed the opinion that the City could not terminate that lease without evidence of I&M's failure to perform. If he is right, would it not be a waste of money to proceed with an engineering and a financing study?

- 5. What would be the measure of damages assessed against the City if it were allowed to terminate the City Light Lease?
- If I&M is deprived of the use of City Light for the thirty years remaining on the lease, is it not entitled to damages?
- 6. What would be the measure of damages awarded to I&M because part of its now integrated system was going to be disconnected?

Removing part of an integrated system, has an adverse affect on the balance of the system. It would cost IgM substantial sums of money to again integrate its system without the part that had been removed. Won't the City have to reimburse IgM for that expense?

- Can the City legally issue revenue bonds to pay for all costs, expenses and damages resulting from acquisition or condemnation, such as:
 - A. Damages assessed against it by reason of its breach of the lease with I&M, if it is allowed to breach that lease?
 - B. Damages sustained by I&M by reason of part of its integrated system being disconnected?
 - C. The cost of disconnecting whatever system is referred to in the petition from the remainder of I&M's system?

Inclusion of those items is bound to raise the cost of this project above the fair market value of the system being acquired.

- 8. What is the legal effect of issuing revenue bonds in an amount that exceeds the fair market value of the system being acquired?
- 9. What procedures $\underline{\text{must}}$ the City follow and what procedures $\underline{\text{may}}$ the City follow, at its discretion, when the results of the study are received?

There are those who would have you believe that this Council is merely a "rubber stamp" and has no discretion in this matter. If that is not the case, the sooner you become aware of your alternatives, the better.

Alternative

One alternative procedure that the Council might consider at this time is to instruct your counsel, John Logan to submit to your bond counsel the legal questions which you desire to have answered and obtain an estimate from that counsel of the cost of obtaining answers. You could then appropriate only enough money to cover the cost of the legal part of the study alone. While awaiting the results of the legal study, you could consider what restrictions and limitations should be placed on the balance of the appropriation and you could interview and consider consultants to make the engineering and financial study. In that way, progress would be constantly made. However, you would not have to actually employ any consultant until the legal part of the study is completed and you know that you legally can do whatever it is the Petition asks you to do. The answers to those legal questions must be faced up to and reconciled eventually. Wouldn't it be better for the citizens of Fort Wayne to do that now rather than after spending \$75,000.00 or more?

Engineering Study

Only if the legal portion of the study is favorable to proceeding with the project, you may want to consider employing an engineering consultant to perform the engineering portion of the study for you. In the meantime you will have decided how to select that consultant and who it will be. In any event, among the questions that might be put to that consultant are the following:

- 1. Which "presently operating electric utility" is referred to in the petition?
- What will be the estimated cost of disconnecting the system to be condemned from the entire I&M system?
- 3. What will be the estimated cost of making the separated part a complete system?
- 4. What damages will be sustained by $I_{\Sigma M}$ by reason of the disconnection of the system to be condemned from the balance of the system?
- 5. What will be the cost of acquiring the system to be acquired?
 - 6. What will be the source of electric energy?
 - A. If it is to be purchased, from whom, and at what cost?
 - B. If it is to be generated, what facilities will be required and what will be the cost of generation?
- 7. What is the estimated cost of operating that system?
- 8. What is the estimated cost of maintaining that system?
- 9. What is the estimated cost of training qualified personnel to operate, maintain and run the system?
- 10. What is the estimated cost of providing for future upgrading of the system?

Financial Study

If the legal and engineering studies reflect that the project is feasable, you may, at that time, wish to select a consultant to conduct a financial study for you. Among the questions that might be submitted to such a consultant are the following:

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- 1. How can the City raise the money to pay the damages awarded to I&M because the City breached the City Light Lease? Even if bonds can be legally issued for that purpose, are such bonds saleable? If they are saleable, what will the cost of that money be to the City?
- 2. How can the City raise the money to pay the cost of disconnecting the system from I&M's system? Even if bonds can be legally issued for that purpose, are they saleable? If so, what would the cost of that money be to the City?
- 3. How can the City raise the money to make the separated part a complete system? Even if bonds can be legally issued issued for that purpose, are they saleable? If so, what would the cost of that money be to the City?
- 4. How can the City raise the money to pay the damages awarded to I&M because of the disconnection of part of its system? Even if bonds can be legally issued for that purpose, are they saleable? If so, what would the cost of that money be to the City?
- 5. How can the City raise money to finance the acquisition of whatever system it intends to acquire? At what cost could the bonds for such financing be sold?
- 6. How much of the money spent on studies can be included in the bond issue?
- 7. How could the City off-set its financial loss when I&M is no longer obligated to pay rental in the average amount of \$1,615,000.00 per year under the lease and the City no longer receives taxes in the approximate amount of \$1,350,000.00 per year? Will the municipal electric utility be able to return that amount of money (approximately \$3,000,000.00 per year) to the City without charging rates higher than those charged by I&M?

If bonds cannot be sold for all of these purposes, where will the money come from — taxes?

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Summary

Only after the legal, engineering and financial questions have been answered and studies completed, will the citizens of Fort Wayne be in a position to make an intelligent choice on whatever it is the petition asks them to do. By consolidating the engineering and financial study, if we ever get that far, we would be able to determine the real cost, per kilowath hour, of producing, distributing and selling electric energy. When we add to that, the cost of returning to the City of Fort Wayne approximately \$3,000,000.00 per year, and compare the total cost of achieving that goal to the price for which I&M is then selling electric energy, will we know whether or not the claim of a rate reduction which may have induced signers of the petition to do so, can be substantiated.

As Mr. Black said, I&M is not afraid of such a study. If the study is done in an objective and professional manner, we are confident that it will show that the City of Fort Wayne and its citizens are served better and more economically by I&M. We just don't want anyone blaming us in the future for not pointing out these problems and pitfalls before substantial amounts of money are comitted or spent.

In addition to all of the questions we have already posed, there are a great number of personnel and labor relations issues that must be addressed before reversing the actions taken five (5) years ago that affected many employees.

We submit that the Council should give serious consideration to not appropriating any money at all until it knows the cost of the legal study. Then it should appropriate enough money to cover only the cost of the legal study. Money for the balance of the study should not be appropriated until the results of the legal study are known. Even then the Council may not want to appropriate the balance without restrictions and conditions so that all the money appropriated is not spent on a study that won't answer all the questions that need to be answered.

WILLIAM P. FAGAN STATEMENT TO Finance Committee of Fort Wayne Common Council September 11, 1979 APPROPRIATION BILL NO. A-79-08-58

- 1. REPRESENT I & M
- 2. I & M OWNS A "PRESENTLY OPERATING ELECTRIC UTILITY" THAT SERVES
 - A. THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE
 - B. THE 6-MILE PERIMETER OF FORT WAYNE
 - C. MANY OTHER CITIES, TOWNS AND RURAL AREAS IN THE STATES OF INDIANA & MICHIGAN
 - THEY ALL COULD MEET THE DEFINITION OF "PRESENTLY OPERATING
 ELECTRIC UTILITIES". IN FACT, I & M, AS A CORPORATE
 ENTITY, COULD MEET THE DEFINITION OF BEING A "PRESENTLY
 OPERATING ELECTRIC UTILITY".
- 3. I & M ALSO OWNS AND OPERATES TRANSMISSION LINES THAT

 TRANSMIT ELECTRIC POWER THROUGH THE CITY OF FORT

 WAYNE AND THE PERIMETER THEREOF. THEY SERVE OTHER

 AREAS BUT ARE PART OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SYSTEM

 PRESENTLY OPERATING IN THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE.
- 4. I & M DOES NOT OWN, BUT IT HAS THE RIGHT TO OPERATE, WHAT

 WAS KNOWN AS "CITY LIGHT" UNDER THE TERMS OF A LEASE WITH

 THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE. THAT ALSO COULD BE CONSIDERED TO

 BE A "PRESENTLY OPERATING ELECTRIC UTILITY".

- 5. THE PAULDING-PUTNAM, WHITLEY CO. AND UNITED REMCS

 ALSO OWN "PRESENTLY OPERATING ELECTRIC UTILITIES" IN

 6-MILE AREA SURROUNDING FORT WAYNE.
- 6. THE CITIES OF NEW HAVEN AND HUNTERTOWN ARE LOCATED IN THAT

 SAME AREA AND THEY HAVE ELECTRIC UTILITIES PRESENTLY OPERATING WITHIN THEM.
- 7. BEFORE APPROPRIATING \$75,000.00, WE SUGGEST THAT

 THERE SHOULD BE A MORE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF WHICH

 "PRESENTLY OPERATING ELECTRIC UTILITY" IS TO BE STUDIED,

 WHY THE MONEY IS BEING APPROPRIATED AND WHAT IT IS TO BE

 USED FOR. IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO APPROPRIATE AND SPEND

 \$75,000.00 TO STUDY A QUESTION THAT NOBODY MAY EVER

 DECIDE, FOR ANY ONE OF MANY REASONS.
- 8. APPROPRIATION BILL MERELY APPROPRIATES THE MONEY TO

 THE "CONSULTANT SERVICES" ACCOUNT THAT COULD COVER

 ANY CONSULTANT ON ANY QUESTION OR QUESTIONS STUDIED IN

 ANY SEQUENCE.
- WOULDN'T IT BE A BETTER BILL IF IT WERE AMENDED TO ANSWER
 AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING THREE (3) OUESTIONS:
 - A. WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD THE CONSULTANTS STUDY? AND
 - B. IN WHAT SEQUENCE SHOULD THE QUESTIONS BE STUDIED?
 - C. WHO WILL SELECT THE CONSULTANTS?

- 10. WHO SHOULD SELECT AND HOW MANY?
 - A. DIFFERENT CONSULTANT EACH AREA
 - 1. LEGAL ENGINEERING AND FINANCIAL
 - B. MOSES STARTED WHEELS TURNING
- 11. WHAT OUESTIONS STUDIED?
 - A. PERTINENT TO PETITION OR INDEPENDENT?
 - B. WHAT OUESTION RAISED BY PETITION?
 - 1. IT DOES NOT RAISE A CLEAR QUESTION BECAUSE
 THERE IS NO WAY TO TELL FROM THE PETITION
 ITSELF WHICH PRESENTLY OPERATING ELECTRIC
 UTILITY IT REFERS TO.
 - 2. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GROUP PUSHING IT WAS QUOTED AS RECENTLY AS AUGUST 17, 1979 EDITION OF NEWS SENTINEL:
 - "IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DEFINE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SYSTEM. WE DON'T KNOW IF WE'LL GO THE 6-MILE FRINGE OR NOT".
 - 3. DOES THIS STATEMENT TELL YOU WHICH ELECTRIC UTILITY SYSTEM IS TO BE STUDIED?
 - C. INDEPENDENT WHY? WHAT ACCOMPLISHED?
- 12. SEQUENCE IN WHICH QUESTIONS STUDIED:
 - A. RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON AUGUST 14, 1979 PROVIDES

 MERELY THAT THE MAYOR

"TAKE WHATEVER STEPS HIS DEPARTMENT DEEMS NECESSARY TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO FINANCE COSTS OF STUDIES ON THE PROPOSAL BY AMP"

- 1. NOT IN RESOLUTION NO LEGAL EFFECT
- 2. GIVE EFFECT BY AMENDING BILL STUDY IN SEQUENCE

B. LEGAL

GENERAL

- A. LOGAN OPINION TIE VOTE
- B. EVANS OPINION
 - C. BOND COUNSEL RECOGNIZED EXPERTS
 - D. BETTER TO FIND OUT NOW THAN AFTER \$75,000.00
 OR MORE SPENT

2. QUESTIONS

- A. IS THE PETITION LEGALLY SUFFICIENT?
- B. HOW MUCH MONEY CAN BE SPENT ON A PRELIMINARY
 STUDY BEFORE IDENTIFYING THE SYSTEM TO BE
 STUDIED
 - 1. 5% LIMITATION
- C. EFFECT OF METHODS USED TO GET PETITIONS

 SIGNED UPON VALIDITY OF PETITIONS
 - 1. PICTURE IN J. G. "SIGN HERE FOR LOWER RATES"
 - 2. MANY OF YOU SEE
 - WERE PEOPLE INDUCED
 - 4. AREN'T YOU NOW BEING ASKED TO FINANCE A STUDY TO DETERMINE
 - 5. SHOULDN'T STUDY HAVE COME FIRST
 - 6. IF STUDY SHOWS RATES NOT LOWER MISLEAD

- 7. EFFECT VALIDITY OF PETITION
- D. CAN CITY LIGHT LEASE BE BROKEN WITHOUT

 EVIDENCE OF I & M'S FAILURE TO PERFORM
 - 1. PROVISIONS IN LEASE RE: WAIVER
 - 2. EVANS OPINION
 - 3. IF HE IS RIGHT WOULD IT NOT BE A
 WASTE OF MONEY TO PROCEED
- E. MEASURE OF DAMAGES IF CITY CAN BREAK LEASE
 - 1. DEPRIVED OF USE FOR 30 YRS. = DAMAGES
- F. MEASURE OF DAMAGES BECAUSE PART OF I & M'S
 SYSTEM DISCONNECTED
- G. CAN CITY ISSUE BONDS TO COVER ALL COSTS,

 EXPENSES AND DAMAGES
 - 1. DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF LEASE
 - DAMAGES FOR DISCONNECT
 - COST OF DISCONNECT
 - 4. COST OF MAKING PART SEPARATED A COM-
 - = COST OF PROJECT EXCEED F M V OF SYSTEM
- H. LEGAL EFFECT OF BONDING IN EXCESS OF F M V
- I. WHAT PROCEDURES MUST CITY FOLLOW VS. WHAT

 PROCEDURES MAY CITY FOLLOW, AT ITS DIS
 CRETION WHEN RESULTS OF STUDIES IN
 - RUBBER STAMP

C. ALTERNATIVE

- LOGAN GIVE LEGAL QUESTIONS TO BOND COUNSEL
 AND GET ESTIMATE OF COST OF ANSWERS
- 2. APPROPRIATE ENOUGH TO COVER COST OF LEGAL
 OPINION ONLY
- 3. INTERVIEW AND CONSIDER ENGINEERING &

 FINANCIAL CONSULTANT DO NOT EMPLOY UNTIL

 AFTER YOU KNOW THAT YOU LEGALLY CAN DO WHAT
 EVER IT IS THAT THE PETITION ASKS YOU TO DO
- MAKING PROGRESS ALL THE TIME
- FACE UP TO ANSWER TO LEGAL QUESTIONS EVENTUALLY.
 BETTER NOW THAN AFTER \$75,000.00 OR MORE SPENT.
- D. <u>ENGINEERING</u> ONLY IF LEGAL PORTION FAVORABLE

 DECIDED WHO IN MEAN TIME
 - 1. QUESTIONS IN WRITTEN STATEMENT TO BE DISTRIBUTED
- E. FINANCIAL ONLY IF LEGAL AND ENGINEERING FAVORABLE
 - 1. QUESTIONS IN WRITTEN STATEMENT TO BE DISTRIBUTED
 - 2. IF BONDS CANNOT BE SOLD FOR ALL DAMAGES, EXPENSES AND COSTS, WHERE WILL MONEY COME FROM -TAXES?
 - 3. HOW WILL CITY OFF-SET LOSS OF APPROXIMATELY
 \$3 MIL. IF I & M NO LONGER REQUIRED TO

 PAY RENTAL AVERAGING \$1,615,000.00 PER YR. AND

 CITY LOSES TAX MONEY OF APPROX. \$1,350,000.00

 PER YEAR?

- 13. ONLY AFTER THE LEGAL, ENGINEERING AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS
 HAVE BEEN ANSWERED AND STUDIES COMPLETED, WILL THE CITIZENS
 OF FORT WAYNE BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE AN INTELLIGENT CHOICE
 ON WHATEVER IT IS THE PETITION ASKS THEM TO DO. BY CONSOLIDATING THE ENGINEERING AND FINANCIAL STUDY, IF WE EVER GET
 THAT FAR, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO DETERMINE THE REAL COST, PER
 KILOWATT HOUR, OF PRODUCING, DISTRIBUTING AND SELLING ELECTRIC
 ENERGY. WHEN WE ADD TO THAT, THE COST OF RETURNING TO THE
 CITY OF FORT WAYNE APPROXIMATELY \$3,000,000.00 PER YEAR, AND
 COMPARE THE TOTAL COST OF ACHIEVING THAT GOAL TO THE PRICE
 FOR WHICH I & M IS THEN SELLING ELECTRIC ENERGY, WILL WE KNOW
 WHETHER OR NOT THE CLAIM OF A RATE REDUCTION WHICH MAY HAVE
 INDUCED SIGNERS OF THE PETITION TO DO SO, CAN BE SUBSTANTIATED.
- 14. AS MR. BLACK SAID, I & M IS NOT AFRAID OF SUCH A STUDY. IF

 THE STUDY IS DONE IN AN OBJECTIVE AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER, WE

 ARE CONFIDENT THAT IT WILL SHOW THAT THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE

 AND ITS CITIZENS ARE SERVED BETTER AND MORE ECONOMICALLY BY

 I & M. WE JUST DON'T WANT ANYONE BLAMING US IN THE FUTURE FOR

 NOT POINTING OUT THESE PROBLEMS AND PITFALLS BEFORE SUBSTANTIAL

 AMOUNTS OF MONEY ARE COMITTED OR SPENT.
- 15. IN ADDITION TO ALL OF THE QUESTIONS WE HAVE ALREADY POSED,

 THERE ARE A GREAT NUMBER OF PERSONNEL AND LABOR RELATIONS

 ISSUES THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED BEFORE REVERSING THE ACTIONS

 TAKEN FIVE (5) YEARS AGO THAT AFFECTED MANY EMPLOYEES.

16.

WE SUBMIT THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO NOT APPROPRIATING ANY MONEY AT ALL UNTIL IT KNOWS THE COST OF THE LEGAL STUDY. THEN IT SHOULD APPROPRIATE ENOUGH MONEY TO COVER ONLY THE COST OF THE LEGAL STUDY. MONEY FOR THE BALANCE OF THE STUDY SHOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATED UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE LEGAL STUDY ARE KNOWN. EVEN THEN THE COUNCIL MAY NOT WANT TO APPROPRIATE THE BALANCE WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS SO THAT ALL THE MONEY APPROPRIATED IS NOT SPENT ON A STUDY THAT WON'T ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED.

September 11, 1979
Statement by W. A. Black Before
Finance Committee and Common Council
City of Fort Wayne

Madame Chairman, members of the Finance Committee and other members of City Council. My name is William A. Black. I am executive vice president of Indiana & Michigan Electric Company. With me this evening are William P. Fagan, a member of the law firm of Livingston, Dildine, Haynie & Yoder, and Larry Brunke, Fort Wayne division manager of I&M.

Madame chairman and members of the committee, I stated
I&M's questions and concerns about the proposal before you at
a news conference in March. Tonight, I would like to reiterate
our position and once again raise those questions--still unanswered
after these many months.

We said in March, and let me state again tonight, that Indiana & Michigan Electric Company plans to stay in Fort Wayne and operate the electric facilities here. No part, and I repeat for emphasis, no part of our system is for sale. We do intend to protect our interests, which we believe are also the interests of the citizens of Fort Wayne.

In March we said we had many questions about the proposal concerning electric service in Fort Wayne. And, we suggested that the citizens of Fort Wayne ought to have answers to these questions.

Today we still have the same questions. And, we have not yet seen or heard any answers. You may ask, what kind of questions? They are very large and important questions that we believe are at the heart of the proposal.

There is a question concerning the petition for a referendum.

Just a few weeks ago this Council received a learned opinion from its own counsel that the petition is "legally insufficient." You may remember a photo in a recent edition of the JOURNAL-GAZETTE,

showing residents signing a petition at a table marked "Sign Here For Lower Rates." Did the citizens think this is what they signed for, lower rates? Will they be lower or will they be higher?

Before Council appropriates large sums of money to make a study, we believe answers are needed right here. Should money be appropriated based on what Council's legal adviser has labelled a legally insufficient petition? It would seem that other important questions need answering before money is appropriated. For instance: What are the specifics of the proposal? Who will do the study? Is the amount you're considering sufficient to do a good job?

Once the question of the petition's legality is settled Council will then be in a position to determine what, if anything further, needs to be done. Facts about how the City might finance such a project (if in fact it can finance it at all) the amount of money that would be required to staff, operate and maintain an electric system, the interest rates to be paid on bonds and the rate structure to be implemented.

It should come as no surprise that the issue is an extremely complex one from a financial engineering and even social standpoint. Our first concern is that everyone who participates in the consideration of the proposal bases that consideration on thoroughly documented and supportable information. As we stated in March, emotional arguments, unprovable assertions, faulty assumptions and unfounded generalizations have no place in such a matter when the right decision is crucial to so many people.

Why is I&M so interested and eager for the citizens of Fort Wayne and its Common Council to have all the information? Because we're convinced that the facts will show that it would be best for Fort Wayne and the electric consumers here if we do stay. We are not frightened by the questions or their answers. If the legal questions are answered indicating that the project should go forward, we support whatever action is necessary to obtain the answers to so many questions that remain unanswered. I&M does not want the people of this community to ask sometime in the future, "why didn't you warn us?" We're taking that opportunity tonight.

No one truly interested in the best for the City and the citizens of Fort Wayne should oppose whatever timetable is necessary to obtain answers to all these questions in the proper sequence. The Council's first concern, I'm sure, is not I&M. Its first concern should not be the group making the proposal. Its first concern should not even be the re-establishment of a municipal power system. Its only concern should be the City of Fort Wayne and its citizens. We urge you and the people you represent to obtain the facts you need in the amount of time you need. All concerned could be living with the results of your decision for a long time to come. When you do act, be sure.

I would now like to ask Mr. Fagan to discuss some of the questions we feel Council needs to have answered as part of its search for the facts. ``

Memorandum

To Members of the Common Council

Date Aug. 14, 1979

From John H. Logan

Subject Acquisition of Electric Utility System

COPIES TO:

You have requested an opinion pertaining to Councilmanic action to be taken in respect to Petition recently presented to Clerk of the City of Fort Wayne under the provisions of IC 8-1-2-99 and presented by the Clerk to the Common Councilman on August 7, 1979 at its Committee Session.

The said Petition reads as follows:

"Petition to the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne:

We, the undersigned, voters of the City of Fort Wayne, respectfully request that the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne acquire, purchase and/or condemn the presently operating electric utility system in order to, in its place, establish, own and operate a municipally owned electric utility."

Specifically, your questions are:

1. Is there a reside petition signed by 5% or more of the voters of the City of Fort Wayne as shown by the total vote cast for all candidates for Municipal Clerk at the last preceding Municipal election therefor?

My answer to this question rests on the certification of the Clerk, who states that he has acused to be examined by his staff and by Republican and Democratic Board Members of the Allen County Election Board, and he states that the required number of petitioners is 22:654, and it would therefore appear that there are a sufficient number of registered voters within the corporate limits of the City of Fort Wayne to render the petition eligible.

the respection of the petition meet the

legal requirements necessary for inclusion of the futtion the fetting referendum question on a special election ballot?

B. the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne hereinafter called "Council" primared to push upon the petition as to whether or not a referendum question should be submitted to the voters of Fort Wayne?

I shall first address myself to the language of the petition. The petition filed by AMP on July 24, 1979 contains the following request: "That the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne acquire, purchase and/or condemn the presently operating electric utility system in order to, in its place, establish, hold and operate a municipally owned electric utility."

The rule of law applicable to petitions is generally stated as follows:

"The petition on which any official acts in calling a special election must contain all the averments necessary to give such official jurisdiction to call the election. However, it is well established that a petition will not be invalidated by trifling errors or omissions, or by unimportant irregularities and defects. Hence it is not essential that the petition be couched in the exact language of the statute. A substantial compliance therewith is sufficient. The principal issue is whether the question was fairly submitted to the voters. "26 Am. Jur. 2d, Elections \$189. (Emphasis supplied).

While there are no cases directly in point in Indiana that I could find, nonetheless in other jurisdictions similar statutes such petitions are required to contain information sufficient to afford voters the opportunity of making intelligent decisions concerning the proposals presented to them.

Under this established standard is AMP'S petition sufficient or is it deficient?

IC 8-1-2-99, the statute under which we must proceed provides in part as follows:

"if said petition is to purchase, condemn, acquire or lease a public utility then operating in said municipality said Council shall submit to the voters of said municipality at a special election to be held $x \times x \times x$ at the earliest possible date, the question whether such municipality shall purchase, condemn or construct and operate such utility as the case may be."

which must make the decision as to whether or not the referendum is to be held and must decide on what issue the referendum is to be held. The Clause (b) of IC 8-1-2-99 further provides:

"said municipality is hereby given authority to acquire either by purchase or condemnation the property of said utility used and useful within such municipality and within six (6) miles of the corporate limits thereof;"

The issue therefore to is not whether at this time there should to or should not be an engineering study, but whether the issue herein presented by the petition regarding municipal acquisition of a utility property is misleading, when it poed not identify the pertinent utility, does not identify the property to be acquired from such utility and does not identify the location of such property. It would seem that it is not clear or certain as to what should be presented to the voters at the special election or special referendum. A leading case on the subject is Missouri, K. & T. Ry. Company vs. Tolbert, a Texas case decided in 1907 reported in 101 S.W. 206 involved a "stock election" petition and was challenged for failing to sufficiently specify, as required by the statute, the area or geographic location affected by the petition's proposal. In finding the petition legally insufficient, the Texas Supreme Court held:

"This requirement is fundamental, because its purpose is to have the petition and the notices based upon it embody the very proposition to be submitted to the voters, so that from these sources they may know what they are to vote upon. This is important, not only that all may know what voters are entitled to vote as freeholders of the district, but that they may also know the territory to be affected by their votes. This information the law intends to furnish in the proceedings themselves. . . . This [learning of such location on their own], the statute in question does not expect them [the voters] to do, but provides that the information shall be given in the petition stating the proposition on which they are to vote. All of this, as well as the further proposition that an election held without compliance with so fundamental and substantial a requirement is of no effect, is

fully sustained by the authorities cited in the opinion of the Court of Civil Appeals." Supra, at p. 207 (emphasis supplied)

AMP's petition does not define the geographical limits of the acquisition and would not appear to be sufficient to adequately inform the voters, nor does it define the utilities which the property is to be acquired. (i.e., I & M only, REMC's operating locally, I & M and REMC's, City Light, etc.). Such information is certainly essential for the voter to possess in order to know what the signing when the significant petition and what the solution for when the voter to possess in order to know what the signing when the significant principle are many other cases on the subject and it seems that the least that is required is substantial seems that the least that is required is substantial seems by the the statute before the body which must pass on the petition as to whether there should be an election or referendum.

Suffice it to quote from the languages 25 Marie 1110 21 2127
which receives as follows: A Town Mucson V. Two on Bay,
Electric "Here the statute permitted the acquisition
either (1) of all the utility's properties

to be condemned or (2) a part of them, or (3) as corollary to the latter, all of the utility's properties except such as by law could not be acquired. What the provisions of the resolution adopted by the Common Council of the Town proposed to acquire is described . . . as 'all of the electric and gas properties, plants and systems, together with all appurtenances and incorporeal hereditaments of the defendant, the Tucson Gas Electric Light & Power Company,' situated in the Town, the adjoining City of Tucson, the surrounding territory of the County of Pima and the extensions of the distributing system in the Counties of Pinal, Santa Cruz, and Cochise, adjoining the County of Pima.

It is clear from the allegations . . . that what the electorate of the Town was asked to vote [upon] . . was the unit of the entire system as a whole and not a mere disjointed part or parts of the system. "

The date line in this tast quote seems to be the important matter for consolimania consideration and that recites we follows:

The principal issue is whether the question fairly submitted to the voters.

Based upon the petition, what should Common Council decide as to what should be submitted to the voters. It cannot submit to the voters something that is not petitioned for and it would seem that it must substantially be able to interpret the petition so that it is clear and concise enough that the signatories to the petition and the voters would not be mislead.

It would seem that the decision in this case is one which the Common Council must itself make, and the Council must decide whether in its opinion the petition is clear or if it's vague or misleading. If it is not clear and if it is vague and misleading then the Council would be authorizing an election which would be void if it held that this question could be properly placed upon the ballot in its present condition as set forth in the petition, and the Common Council in all probability/be causing a needless expenditure of funds for a void election, if the latter is true. Furthermore, the case of State v. Tillatson, a Missouri case of 1957 decides as follows:

"The duty to determine whether a petition for election is in accordance with the law falls upon the officers to whom it is presented and who are charged with the duty to call the election.

Elections cannot be held except by authority of the law. ℓ'

the statute requiring that the months of the statute of proper time to the statute of proper time to the statute of the statut

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. LOGAN Ogun

New Section 2 in A-79-08-57 New Section 3 in A-79-08-58

The first expenditures shall be to fund a study to determine the legality of the petition, and to pay for costs related to such a legal study. Further, *M*f**/\$M#11/ no other funds shall be spent until the legal question is decided in the affirmative.



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE

CITY-COUNTY BUILDING . ONE MAIN STREET . FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46802

charles w. westerman, clerk -:- room 122

August 29, 1979

Ms. Virginia Grace Fort Wayne Newspapers, Inc. 600 West Main Street Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

Dear Ms. Grace:

Please give the attached full coverage on the dates of September 1 and September 8, 1979, in both the News Sentinel and Journal Gazette.

RE: Legal Notice for Common Counci; of Fort Wayne, Indiana

Appropriation Ordinance Bill No. A-79-08-57 Appropriation Ordinance Bill No. A-79-08-58

Please send us 12 copies of the PUblisher's Affidavit from both newspapers.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Westerman

City Clerk

CWW/ne Encl: 1

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the City of Fort Wayne, Allen County,
Indiana, that the Common Council of said Municipality will, at the Council
Chambers, City-County Building, Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Tuesday, the $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $
of September , 19 79 at 7:30 P.M. o'clock, Eastern Standard Time,
consider the following additional appropriations which said Council considers
necessary to meet an extraordinary emergency existing at this time.

BILL NO. A-79-08-57

After taking care of current obligations, including a depreciation or replacement fund of at least 5% of the operating cash reserve of the utility, there is presently a balance of Seventy-Five (\$75,000) dollars in said account.

That there is hereby transferred from the Cash Reserve Fund of the Electric Utility to the City General Fund, subject to appropriation to specific accounts of the current budgets of such department or departments of the Civil City as the Council may by subsequent appropriation ordinance specify, the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000) dollars.

An Emergency exists for the transfer of said amount to the City General Fund and the City Controller has recommended such transfer. A-79-08-58 BILL NO.

There is hereby appropriated to the accounts of the current budget of the City Controller the amount set opposite said account below respectively,

Account No. 4-02-010-002-4267 Consultant Services \$75,000.00. That the unappropriated balance of the General Fund is hereby reduced in the amount of \$75,000.00.

An Emergency exists for the appropriation of additional funds to the curren budget of the City Controller, which appropriation has been recommended by the City Controller, in the amount of Seventy-Five (\$75,000) dollars, which funds are presently available in the unobligated balance of the General Fund by reason of a recent tranfer to it of such amount from the Cash Reserve Fund of the Electric Utility as envisioned by I.C. 19-3-19-1.

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriation, as finally made, will be automatically referred to the State Board of Tax Commissioners, which Commission will hold a further hearing within fifteen days at the County Auditor's Office of Allen County, Indiana, or at such other place as may be designated. At such hearing, taxpayers objection to any of such additional appropriations may be heard and interested taxpayers may inquire of the County Auditor when and where such hearing will be held.

CHARLES W. WESTERMAN

Charles W. Westermen

CITY CLERK

legal question is decided in the affirmative.

AMENDMENT MADE IN COMMITTEE SESSION

The first expenditures shall be to fund a study to determine the legality of the petition, and to pay for costs related to such a legal study. Further, no other funds shall be spent until the

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, certain extraordinary emergencies have developed since the adoption of the existing annual budget, so that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now therefore, to meet such extraordinary emergencies:

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, that for the expenses of said municipal corporation the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

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Common Council of Fort Wayne

(Governmental Unit)

AllenCounty, Ind. JOURNAL-GAZETTE Dr

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

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COMPUTION OF CHARGES

1 columns wide equals 81 , 20.98 equivalent lines at •259

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PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

State of Indiana

Personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for said county and state, the undersigned ARVILLA DEWALD who, being duly sworn, says

JOURNAL-GAZETTE

a. DAILY newspaper of general circulation printed and published

in the English language in the city of FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

in state and county aforesaid, and that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy,

which was duly published in said paper for...... as follows:

9/1 - 9/8/79

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

My commission expires...

September 28, 1979 Notar Public

8th Unile September

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DIGEST SHEET

(as imended) G-79-0838

TITLE OF ORDINANCE
DEPARTMENT REQUESTING ORDINANCE CONTROLLER
SYNOPSIS OF ORDINANCE This Bill is being requested to show the City's
sincerity of cooperating with the private sector in order to provide
a climate in which all citizens can make informed, unemotional value
judgments on the referendum on the I & M-City Light Lease. It is our
intention to let the private sector raise as many of the funds as they
can. If the cost is more than the private sector can raise, then we wil
use this appropriation.
1
EFFECT OF PASSAGE \$75,000 transferred for study.
EFFECT OF NON-PASSAGE Study may not be completed.
MONEY INVOLVED (Direct Costs, Expenditures, Savings)
\$75,000
ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE (J.N.)
DATE SURMITTED: